



**For Immediate Release  
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**Contact: Wendy Fox  
617-626-1453**

**MAPLE SUGARING EVENTS NOW ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL AND  
NONPROFIT GROUPS**

March is maple sugaring time in New England, and plans are underway for this year's maple sugaring programs in the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) state and urban parks. The following locations accept and encourage reservations for organized educational and nonprofit groups beginning this month. No reservations are necessary for individuals or families who want to attend DCR's maple sugaring events.

- Massachusetts Audubon Society's Blue Hills Trailside Museum in Milton offers group tours of maple sugaring techniques from Brookwood Farm in the Blue Hills Reservation from mid-February through March. Learn the process of turning sap to sugar, see a real evaporator, and sample a traditional maple syrup snack. The \$10-per-student fee charged by MassAudubon includes admittance to the Blue Hills Trailside Museum (open Wednesday-Sunday). Contact the Blue Hills Trailside Museum (617-333-0690) for further information and to make reservations.
- Breakheart Reservation in Saugus offers free programs for schools and nonprofit groups Monday-Friday, March 10-March 14. Tours include tree identification, tappings, history of maple sugaring, wood harvesting, sap boiling, and sampling of real maple syrup on pancakes and popcorn. Preregistration is required and can be arranged by phone (781-438-1388) Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park in Uxbridge offers maple sugaring demonstrations and lessons in how to make your own maple syrup at home, hosted by the Blackstone Valley Sugaring Association. Visitors can watch syrup being made, sample maple products, see trees being tapped, participate in gathering sap, and visit the park's sugar house. Limited group tours will be offered during the first three weekends in March (March 1 & 2, March 8 & 9, and March 15 & 16) beginning at 9 a.m. Contact the Blackstone Valley Sugaring Association (508-278-5274) or [www.blackstonevalleysugaring.org](http://www.blackstonevalleysugaring.org).
- D.A.R. State Forest in Goshen will arrange maple sugaring tours at the Krug Sugarbush for school groups, beginning the second week in March. Groups can schedule tours in either the morning (after 10 a.m.) or afternoon, but should contact D.A.R. no earlier than a week in advance to allow for the best prediction of weather and sugaring conditions. Call 413-268-7098.

For more information on individual parks, and for driving directions, see DCR's website at [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr).

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600  
Boston MA 02114-2119  
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax  
[www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr)



Deval L. Patrick  
Governor

Timothy P. Murray  
Lt. Governor

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive  
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation